

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

---

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A method for discovering the topology of a network comprising:

initially resolving ~~the~~ positions of ~~the~~ end stations on the network, and subsequently resolving the topology of ~~the~~ remaining devices on the network.

Claim 2 (Original): A method as claimed in claim 1 in which the step of initially resolving the positions of the end stations comprises, for each managed device, determining which ports are only connected to an end station.

Claim 3 (Original): A method as claimed in claim 1 in which the step of resolving the topology of the remaining devices comprises:

querying for each managed device, which ports have learnt the address of another managed device.

Claim 4 (Original): A computer program on a computer readable medium loadable into a digital computer or embodied in a carrier wave, said program including software for carrying out the method of claim 1.

Claim 5 (Original): A computer program on a computer readable medium loadable into a digital computer or embodied

in a carrier wave, for discovering the topology of a network comprising:

a program step to query a port of a managed device for a first address of any packet which has been received;

a program step for querying the same port of the device for a second address of any packet which has been received;

if there is no second address, returning relevant data to a manager and determining if there is another port on the device;

if there is a second address, determining if there is another port on the device;

if there is another port on the device, repeating the preceding four steps for another port of the managed device;

if not, repeating the preceding five steps in respect of another managed device.

Claim 6 (New): A method for discovering the topology of a network, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) querying a port of a managed device on the network for a first address of any packet which has been received by the managed device;

(b) querying said port of the device for a second address of any packet which has been received by the managed device;

(c) if said second address does not exist, returning appropriate data to a manager and determining if there is another port on the managed device;

(d) if said second address exists, determining if there is said other port on the device;

(e) if said other port exists on the managed device, repeating steps (a)-(d) for said other port; and

Appl. No. 09/662,533

Amdt. dated March 22, 2003

Reply to Office Action of Dec. 3, 2003

*A!*  
*encl.*  
(f) if said other port does not exist on the managed device, repeating steps (a)-(e) for another managed device on the network.

---